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## CONSTITUTION

OF THE

# BAPTIST FEMALE SOCIETY

OF

## BOSTON AND VICINITY,

FOR

PROMOTING THE CONVERSION OF THE JEWS,

ORGANIZED, OCTOBER 24TH, 1822.

WITH

## AN ADDRESS ON THE SUBJECT.

Preach the Gospel to every creature—Justs. Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy.—Paul.

#### BOSTON:

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No. 10 Merchants' Hall.

1822.

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## CONSTITUTION.

#### ARTICLE I.

THIS Association, shall be etyled, "THE BAPTIST FEMALE SOCIETY OF BOSTON AND VICINITY FOR PROMOTING THE CONVERSION OF THE JEWS."

#### ARTICLE II.

THE Funds of the Society shall be employed in promoting the object specified in the first article; and shall be thus appropriated by the Board of Managers, as the leading of Providence may dictate.

### ARTICLE III.

ANY person paying Annually, a sum not less than FIFTY CENTS, shall be a Member of this Society—and any person paying TEN DOLLARS, shall be a Member for life.

### ARTICLE IV.

A BOARD of Managers shall be chosen, consisting of a first and second Directress, a Corresponding Secretary, a Recording Secretary, a Treasurer, and six Collectors.—Any three of the officers, with two collectors shall form a quorum.

#### ARTICLE V.

THE Annual Meeting of the Society shall be holden in Boston, the last Wednesday in September, at such place and hour as the Managers shall appoint; at which time the Board shall be elected by ballot. Every Meeting shall be opened with prayer.

### ARTICLE VI.

THE first Directress, or, in her absence the second Directress, shall call Meetings of the Managers at her discretion.

and shall preside at the same, and the Board may fill any vacancy in their number which may occur, or appoint any additional collector, if necessary, between the Annual Meetings.

#### ARTICLE VII.

THE Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Society and keep a record of the same. The Recording Secretary shall give notice of all the meetings of the Society and the Board, and record their doings, and shall prepare the Report of the Managers for the Annual Meetings,-The Treasurer shall keep the names of all the Members of the Society, and shall designate to each Collector the Subscriptions to be collected by her; and shall keep an account of all monies she may receive, to be holden subject to the order of the first or second Directress, which shall be drawn from the Treasury only hy authority from the Board.-Each Collector snall keep an account with the Members, whose subscriptions are assigned for her collection, pay all monies so received, to the Treasurer, and take her receipt for the same. - Also give notice to her subscribers of the time and place of the Annual Meeting.

### ARTICLE VIII.

Any alteration in these Articles may be made by the vote of two-thirds of the Members present at an Annual Meeting.

#### OFFICERS,

Mrs. J. CARLETON, 1st. Directress.

Miss M. DOUBT, 2d Directress.

Miss M. WEBB, Corresponding Secretary.

Miss L. CLOUSTON, Recording Secretary.

Mrs. P. C. MORRIS, Treasurer.

#### COLLECTORS.

Mrs. H. NICHOLS, Mrs. A. LAMB, Mrs. J. JONES,

Miss F. BAXTER, Miss L. C. JEPSON, Miss C. A. RIPLEY.

## ADDRESS.

TO THE LADIES ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF ORGAN-IZING A SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING THE CONVERSION OF THE JEWS, OCTOBER 24TH, 1822.

THE faithfulness of Jehovah to his promises, is a subject of the highest consolation to the humble believer; while it is calculated to fill the transgressor with consternation and dismay. He declared to his ancient and peculiar people Israel, that if they rebelled against his government, and disobeyed his commands, he would scatter them to the four winds, and they should become a taunt and a proverb, a hissing and a by word among all nations of the earth. They rebelled-they disobeyed-and he in very faithfulness fulfiled his word. He dispersed them into every quarter of the globe, and for ages they have stood a monument of his righteous indignation. By every nation under heaven the Jew is considered an outcast. Even the heathen world, which could in no sense be influenced by the prophecies concerning them, being wholly ignorant of the word of GOD; has taken its part in executing the vengance of heaven upon the Jews.

But we find in the same volume of divine truth, among a multitude of others, this precious promise respecting Israel. Ezekiel 34. 11. 12. "For thus

saith the Lord GOD, Behold I, even I, will both search my sheep, and seek them out. As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered; so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places, where they have been scattered in the cloudy and dark day". And his faithfulness in punishing is an earnest of the fulfilment of his promises of mercy. Not one of them shall fail. We learn also from the apostle, Rom. 11. 31. that one specific object which infinite wisdom had in view in leaving them in a state of unbelief was, that the gentile Ch urch might have an opportunity of exhibiting the benevolent and sympathizing spirit with which the religion of the Messiah inspires its subjects: Even so have these also now not believed, that through your mercy they also may obtain mercy." Yet have we not reason to confess that too little of this disposition has been manifested? The christian Church has long been praying that GOD would bring in his ancient people: But, have their prayers and their practice corresponded? We have particular desires for the conversion of our relatives. And it is our duty to feel this selicitude for them. But are we equally anxious for the kindred according to the flesh, of our blessed Redeemer? For these we should feel, and pray, and labour. those purposes we have assembled this day. Believing that the Shepherd of Israel intends to bring his wandering people into the same fold with the gentile church, and make them one; and relying on his direction and benediction, we attempt something in aid of this great design. True we cannot at this moment mark out the identical field in which we may most usefully be employed; nor are we prepared to work, were it immediately before us. The first direction which the Lord gave to his peo-

ple when the time had come for the rebuilding of the Temple, after severely reproving them for their long neglect of duty; was to "Consider their ways." Then he says, "Go up to the mountain and bring wood, and build the house, and I will take pleasure in it, and I will be glorified, saith the Lord." In view of the subject then, let us be deeply humbled before GOD, for our past inattention to the descendants of his ancient "Friend," and endeavour in future to redeem the time. At present, we can only collect our mites together, that (as was said by the Apostle on another occasion) "we may be ready," and beyond doubt Providence will open the way before us. Perhaps already, God is operating on the hearts of many and disposing them to receive our munificence as soon as we can communicate it. When he was about to give the gospel to the gentiles; at the very moment he was preparing the mind of Peter by the vision of the sheet let down from heaven, he had commanded Cornelius to send men to Joppa and invite him to come to Cesarea and preach to them. His power is still the same. Still he is pursuing the same unbroken plan; he can call whom he will, and make them subservient to his purposes. The criminal apathy of the Gentile, and the deep rooted prejudices of the Jew are alike subject to his control. With infinite ease, he can cause them to yield to commisseration in the one and susceptibility in the other.

Let us be fully impressed with the idea, that our object, is to promote the spread of the gospel among the twelve tribes of Israel. And to endeavour to do this, where there is the best prospect of success. There is no possibility of exceeding the limits prescribed in our Lord's commission to his Apostles and succeeding Ministers. And when we consider the amazing dis-

tance which our blessed Saviour came, even from the regions of glory to this low world, to suffer and die for the Jew as well as for the Gentile; we feel no regret in sending a portion of what he has entrusted us with, to the remotest spot which sustains an immortal being: while we feel it equally our duty to communicate the same blessings to our nighest neighbour, if destitute of them.

We have great occasion for gratitude to God for the auspicious providences attending the commencement of our career. The hearts of many have been open, and the utmost cheerfulness to engage in this labour of love has been manifested.

Blessings, the most invaluable and abundant, are waiting to flow in upon the Church with the incoming of the Jews. How then should our hearts exult, in prospect of being in any degree instrumental of bringing on that glorious day! The thought is calculated to give a zest to all our enjoyments, and to enhance the worth of every good thing which increases our ability to go forward.

May the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Israel, bless this Institution. May it continue and flourish, until the period shall have arrived, when the Jews shall be brought in with the "fullness of the Gentiles,

and so all Israel shall be saved."

